

*AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS*

1. (Currently Amended) Derivatives of natural, semisynthetic and synthetic lipids, ~~characterised in that these~~ the derivatives ~~comprise~~ comprising oligomers of the lipids selected from ceramides and/or sphingosines.
2. (Currently Amended) Derivatives of natural, semisynthetic and synthetic lipids according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the fatty acid component of the sphingosines and the fatty acid components of the ceramides comprise palmitic acid (n-hexadecanoic acid, C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>32</sub>-COOH) or another monocarboxylic acid with a chain length of between 10 and 40 C-atoms.
3. (Currently Amended) Derivatives of natural, semisynthetic and synthetic lipids according to claim 1-and-2, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the fatty acid components are selected from the saturated monocarboxylic acids n-dodecanoic (lauric acid, C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>24</sub>-COOH), n-tetradecanoic acid (myristicin acid, C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>28</sub>-COOH), n-octadecanoic acid (stearic acid, C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>36</sub>-COOH), n-icosanoic acid (arachidic acid, C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>40</sub>-COOH), n-tetracosanoic acid (lignoceric acid, C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>48</sub>-COOH), *cis*-Δ<sup>9</sup>-hexadecenoic acid (palmitoleic acid, C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>29</sub>-COOH), *cis*-Δ<sup>9</sup>-octadecenoic acid (oleinic acid, oleic acid, C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>34</sub>-COOH), *cis,cis*-Δ<sup>9</sup>-Δ<sup>12</sup>-octadecadienoic acid (linoleic acid, C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>32</sub>-COOH), all-*cis*-Δ<sup>9</sup>,Δ<sup>12</sup>,Δ<sup>15</sup>-octadecatrienoic acid (linolenic acid, C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>30</sub>-COOH), α-hydroxytetracosanoic acid (cerebronic acid, C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>45</sub>-CHOH-COOH) or from decanoic acid (C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>21</sub>-COOH), octacosanoic acid (C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>57</sub>-COOH) or *cis*-Δ<sup>9</sup>-octacosanoic acid (C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>55</sub>-COOH).
4. (Currently Amended) Derivatives of natural, semisynthetic and synthetic lipids according to claims 1 to 3 claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein, within the oligomeric lipid molecule, the cross-linkage of respectively two adjacent lipid monomers is effected strictly alternately either in the “tail-to-tail” arrangement or in the “head-to-head” arrangement.

5. (Currently Amended) Derivatives of natural, semisynthetic and synthetic lipids according to ~~claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, characterised in that wherein two adjacent lipid molecules are bonded respectively in the “tail-to-tail” arrangement via their hydrophobic fatty acid radical, preferably via the  $\omega$ -position carbon atom of the fatty acid chain, by a covalent bond.

6. (Currently Amended) Derivatives of natural, semisynthetic and synthetic lipids according to ~~claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, characterised in that wherein two adjacent lipid molecules are bonded respectively in the “tail-to-tail” arrangement via a so-called “intradimeric spacer” with a freely selectable molecule chain length and composition.

7. (Currently Amended) Derivatives of natural, semisynthetic and synthetic lipids according to claim 6, characterised in that wherein the intradimeric spacer comprises at least one carbon atom and/or at least one heteroatom (oxygen, nitrogen, etc.).

8. (Currently Amended) Derivatives of natural, semisynthetic and synthetic lipids according to ~~claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, characterised in that wherein two adjacent lipid molecules are bonded to each other in the “head-to-head” arrangement respectively via their hydrophilic structural component.

9. (Currently Amended) Derivatives of natural, semisynthetic and synthetic lipids according to ~~claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, characterised in that wherein two adjacent lipid molecules are bonded in the “head-to-head” arrangement via a so-called “interdimeric spacer” with a freely selectable molecules chain length and composition.

10. (Currently Amended) Derivatives of natural, semisynthetic and synthetic lipids according to claim 9, characterised in that wherein the spacer situated between the two lipid dimers which are cross-linked in the “head-to-head” arrangement is predominantly hydrophilic.

11. (Currently Amended) Derivatives of natural, semisynthetic and synthetic lipids according to ~~claims 9 or 10~~ claim 9, characterised in that wherein the spacer situated between the two lipid dimers which are cross-linked in the “head-to-head” arrangement contains as structural components, e.g. glycerine, amino acids and/or carbohydrate components (monosaccharides, disaccharides, oligosaccharides etc.), and/or further structural components such as e.g. mevalonic acid or pyrrolidone carboxylic acid.

12. (Currently Amended) Pharmaceutical preparation containing lipids according to ~~at least one of the claims 1 to 11~~ claim 1 as active substance.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)